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DCI/PAO [REDACTED] 2 June 1987

PAO 87-0014

Distribution:

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1 - MED (Subject)

2 June 1987

STAT

FROM: William M. Baker
Director, Public Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Invitation to Address the National Association of
Broadcasters

1. Action Requested: Accept or decline the invitation from the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) to address the annual Board of Directors meeting at a breakfast or lunch on Tuesday, 23 June, or at lunch on Wednesday, 24 June, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Washington, D.C. The preferred date is lunch on Tuesday.

2. Background: President and CEO of the NAB Edward O. Fritts has invited you to address its Board of Directors in either an off-the-record session or one open to the press. (See opposite for biography and news articles.) The suggested format is 20 minutes of remarks followed by 10 minutes of Questions and Answers. The audience would be made up of approximately 67 owners and managers of TV and radio stations nationwide. (See opposite for list of board members.) The NAB does not know of any foreign nationals who would be present.

"Cooperation Between Business and Government" was suggested as a topic or any other one that you would prefer. According to Mr. Fritts, the Board would greatly benefit from your "insight into current domestic and international issues." Previous speakers have been Senators Daniel Inouye and Ernest Hollings, Congressmen Tip O'Neill and John Dingell, and CBS President Laurence Tisch.

The NAB is a trade association and a political action committee representing more than 5,000 radio and 900 television stations nationwide including all the major networks. According to the Trade, Business, Associations, 21st Edition-1987, the NAB "Upholds the American system of broadcasting free from government censorship; combats discriminatory legislative proposals against broadcasting and advertising." The New York Times reported in December 1986 that the NAB contributed \$49,000 to various Congressional campaigns. The Times also reported in June of 1986 that the NAB made payments of \$75,750 in fees to Congressmen who accept travel, meals and lodging reimbursements for appearances.



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The NAB has been active in supporting the Drug Enforcement Administration's work on drug abuse and service announcements on the issue of drunk driving. The Association produced a video program "Team Up Against Drugs" which it showed to members of Congress. According to The New York Times, the NAB has supported public broadcasting by lobbying Congress for funds. President Fritts was appointed by President Reagan to be a member of the Presidential Board of Advisors on Private Sector Initiatives as a result of the NAB's program on alcohol and drug abuse. Mr. Fritts also served on USIA Director Charles Wick's committee to assist in "telling America's story overseas." (See opposite for recent news articles concerning the NAB.)

3. Recommendation: None. Although we do not usually speak to PAC groups, due to your prior association with the NAB in drug enforcement issues you may wish to do so. Please indicate your preference below and Public Affairs will make the appropriate response.

If not conflicting with travel I recommend "yes" as a farewell gesture.

William M. Baker

ACCEPT:

*I will be in travel status
please drop yours*

Director of Central Intelligence

DATE: 10 JUN 1987

23 June, Breakfast

23 June, Lunch (preferred date and time)

24 June, Lunch

DECLINE:

Director of Central Intelligence

DATE: _____